



SPECIALIST INSTRUCTION CREDENTIALS

Specialist Instruction Credentials authorize the holder to teach or provide services in the area of specialization listed on the credential. All the documents require the individual to complete a Commission-approved program in the area of specialization, or an equivalent preparation program at a regionally-accredited institution outside of California.

AGRICULTURE

Authorizes the holder to teach agriculture in preschool, K–12 inclusive, and in classes organized primarily for adults. This credential authorizes the holder to develop and coordinate curriculum, develop programs, and deliver staff development for agriculture education programs coordinated by school districts or county offices of education.

Requirements for the Specialist Instruction Credential in Agriculture

Applicants must satisfy **all** of the following requirements:

1. Possess a valid California Single Subject Teaching Credential in Agriculture, Standard Secondary Teaching Credential in Agriculture Science, or Special Secondary Credential in Vocational Agriculture
2. Complete a Commission-approved specialist program, including student teaching
3. Obtain the recommendation of a California college or university with a Commission-approved program in the specialist area

Out-of-State Applicants

Out-of-state applicants may apply directly to the Commission for the professional clear credential if they satisfy **both** of the following requirements:

1. Possess a valid California Single Subject Teaching Credential in Agriculture, Standard Secondary Teaching Credential in Agriculture Science, or Special Secondary Credential in Vocational Agriculture
2. Complete a comparable program, including supervised student teaching appropriate to the specialization at a regionally-accredited institution, approved by the state agency where the course work was completed

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Authorizes the holder to develop and coordinate curriculum, develop programs, and deliver staff development including age-appropriate teaching methodologies for child development programs and early childhood education programs in grades three and below which are coordinated by school districts or county offices of education. This credential also authorizes teaching courses in child development in grades K–12 inclusive and in classes organized primarily for adults.

Requirements for the Specialist Instruction Credential in Early Childhood Education

Applicants must satisfy **all** of the following requirements:

1. Possess a valid California Multiple Subject, Standard Elementary, or General Elementary Teaching Credential
2. Complete a Commission-approved specialist program, including student teaching
3. Obtain the recommendation of a California college or university with a Commission-approved program in the specialist area

Out-of-State Applicants

Out-of-state applicants may apply directly to the Commission for the professional clear credential if they satisfy **all** of the following requirements:

1. Possess a valid California Multiple Subject, Standard Elementary, or General Elementary Teaching Credential

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2. Complete a comparable program, including supervised student teaching appropriate to the specialization at a regionally-accredited institution, approved by the state agency where the course work was completed

GIFTED EDUCATION

Authorizes the holder to develop and coordinate curriculum, develop programs, and deliver staff development for gifted education programs coordinated by school districts or county offices of education.

Requirements for the Specialist Instruction Credential in Gifted Education

Applicants must satisfy **all** of the following requirements:

1. Satisfy **one** of the following requirements:
 - a. possess a valid California teaching credential requiring a bachelor's degree from a regionally-accredited college or university and a program of professional preparation including student teaching
 - b. possess a valid California Designated Subjects Teaching Credential provided the applicant also possesses a baccalaureate degree and has passed the California Basic Educational Skills Test (CBEST) (For more information, contact the CBEST Program, National Evaluation Systems, Inc., P.O. Box 340880, Sacramento, CA 95834-0880, (916) 928-4001, or toll free (800) 262-5080, or visit their website at www.cbest.nesinc.com.)
2. Complete a Commission-approved specialist program, including student teaching
3. Obtain the recommendation of a California college or university with a Commission-approved program in the specialist area

Out-of-State Applicants

Out-of-state applicants may apply directly to the Commission for the professional clear credential if they satisfy **both** of the following requirements:

1. Satisfy **one** of the following requirements:
 - a. possess a valid California teaching credential requiring a bachelor's degree from a regionally-accredited college or university and a program of professional preparation including student teaching
 - b. possess a valid California Designated Subjects Teaching Credential provided the applicant also possesses a baccalaureate degree and has passed the California Basic Educational Skills Test (CBEST) (For more information, contact the CBEST Program, National Evaluation Systems, Inc., P.O. Box 340880, Sacramento, CA 95834-0880, (916) 928-4001, or toll free (800) 262-5080, or visit their website at www.cbest.nesinc.com.)
2. Complete a comparable program, including supervised student teaching appropriate to the specialization at a regionally-accredited institution, approved by the state agency where the course work was completed

HEALTH SCIENCE

Authorizes the holder to teach health science in preschool, K–12 inclusive, and in classes organized primarily for adults. This credential also authorizes the holder to develop and coordinate curriculum, develop programs, and deliver staff development health science education programs coordinated by school districts or county offices of education.

Requirements for the Specialist Instruction Credential in Health Science

Applicants must satisfy **all** of the following requirements:

1. Satisfy **one** of the following requirements:
 - a. possess a valid California teaching credential requiring a bachelor's degree from a regionally-accredited college or university and a program of professional preparation including student teaching
 - b. possess a valid Clear Full-time Designated Subjects Credential if the holder also possesses a bachelor's degree from a regionally-accredited college or university and has passed the California Basic Educational Skills Test (CBEST) (For more information, contact the CBEST Program, National Evaluation Systems, Inc., P.O. Box 340880, Sacramento, CA 95834-0880, (916) 928-4001, or toll free (800) 262-5080, or visit their website at www.cbest.nesinc.com.)

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2. Complete a Commission-approved specialist program, including student teaching
3. Obtain the recommendation of a California college or university with a Commission-approved program in the specialist area

Out-of-State Applicants

Out-of-state applicants may apply directly to the Commission for the professional clear credential if they satisfy **both** of the following requirements:

1. Satisfy **one** of the following requirements:
 - a. possess a valid California teaching credential requiring a bachelor's degree from a regionally-accredited college or university and a program of professional preparation including student teaching
 - b. possess a valid California Designated Subjects Teaching Credential provided the applicant also possesses a baccalaureate degree and has passed the California Basic Educational Skills Test (CBEST) (For more information, contact the CBEST Program, National Evaluation Systems, Inc., P.O. Box 340880, Sacramento, CA 95834-0880, (916) 928-4001, or toll free (800) 262-5080, or visit their website at www.cbest.nesinc.com.)
2. Complete a teacher preparation program, including student teaching, and complete a comparable program that includes supervised student teaching appropriate to the specialization at a regionally-accredited institution, approved by the state agency where the course work was completed

MATHEMATICS

Authorizes the holder to teach mathematics in preschool, K–12 inclusive, and in classes organized primarily for adults. The credential authorizes the holder to develop and coordinate curriculum, develop programs, and deliver staff development for mathematics education programs coordinated by school districts and county offices of education.

Requirements for the Specialist Instruction Credential in Mathematics

Applicants must satisfy **all** of the following requirements:

1. Satisfy **one** of the following requirements:
 - a. possess a valid California teaching credential requiring a bachelor's degree from a regionally-accredited college or university and a program of professional preparation
 - b. possess a valid Clear Full-time Designated Subjects Credential if the holder also possesses a bachelor's degree from a regionally-accredited college or university and has passed the California Basic Educational Skills Test (CBEST) (For more information, contact the CBEST Program, National Evaluation Systems, Inc., P.O. Box 340880, Sacramento, CA 95834-0880, (916) 928-4001, or toll free (800) 262-5080, or visit their website at www.cbest.nesinc.com.)
2. Complete a Commission-approved specialist program, including student teaching
3. Obtain the recommendation of a California college or university with a Commission-approved program in the specialist area

Out-of-State Applicants

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1. Satisfy **one** of the following requirements:
 - a. possess a valid California teaching credential requiring a bachelor's degree from a regionally-accredited college or university and a program of professional preparation including student teaching
 - b. possess a valid California Designated Subjects Teaching Credential provided the applicant also possesses a baccalaureate degree and has passed the California Basic Educational Skills Test (CBEST) (For more information, contact the CBEST Program, National Evaluation Systems, Inc., P.O. Box 340880, Sacramento, CA 95834-0880, (916) 928-4001, or toll free (800) 262-5080, or visit their website at www.cbest.nesinc.com.)

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2. Complete a comparable program that includes supervised student teaching appropriate to the specialization at a regionally-accredited institution, approved by the state agency where the course work was completed

TERM

The term of a Professional Clear Specialist Instruction Credential is determined by the expiration date of the prerequisite teaching credential held, but may not exceed five calendar years.

Reference: California Education Code, Section 44265 and Title 5, California Code of Regulations, Sections 80048, 80067, 88068, 80069, 80069.1, and 80070

[Click here for a list of Professional Preparation Programs](#)

- *Specialist Instruction Credentials are also available in Special Education areas. Refer to Education Specialist Instruction Credential leaflet [CL-808C](#) for information about the requirements. For information regarding the Specialist Instruction Credentials in Reading and Language Arts, refer to Specialist Instruction Credentials in Reading and Language Arts leaflet [CL-537](#). For information regarding the Specialist Instruction Credential in Bilingual Crosscultural Education, refer to the Serving English Learners leaflet [CL-622](#).*